REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action dated December 1, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully

considered. Claims 1-19 are pending. Claims 1-19 have been rejected.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections are respectfully requested

in view of the following remarks.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 4-5, 7, 10-11, 13, 15 and 18-19 were rejected as being unpatentable over

Okabe (U.S. Patent No. 5,375,219) in view of *Starkey* (U.S. Patent No. 5,592,664). It is

respectfully submitted that *Okabe* does not teach, *inter alia*, a computer assisted method of

facilitating communication between a plurality of computer software applications comprising

"performing a storage operation from a first computer <u>software application</u> to a first data

element... wherein the data set is shared by a <u>plurality of computer software applications</u>... and

providing a second computer <u>software application</u> with a signal responsive to the storage

operation" as recited in claim 1.

It is also respectfully submitted that *Okabe* does not teach, *inter alia,* "a computer

readable carrier comprising "computer instructions located within the computer readable carrier

for sharing between data between a plurality of <u>computer applications</u> wherein the instructions

include performing a storage operation from a first computer software application to a first data

element... wherein the data set is shared by a plurality of computer <u>software applications</u>... and

providing a second computer <u>software application</u> with a signal responsive to the storage

operation" as recited in claim 11.

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that *Okabe* does not teach, *inter alia*, a system for facilitating communication between a plurality of computer software applications comprising "means for performing a storage operation from a first computer software application to a first data element... and means for providing a second computer application with a signal responsive to the storage operation" as recited in claim 19.

Okabe's invention is directed to a system with a plurality of processors using a common memory and utilizing an interrupt signal. Figure 2 of *Okabe* depicts a plurality of units A, B and common memory 2. An interruption signal 4 can be transmitted from unit A to unit B. However, as acknowledged by the Examiner, *Okabe* does not teach communication between computer software applications nor does it teach performing a storage operation to a data element as recited by the claims 1, 11 and 19 of the present invention. In fact, *Okabe* teaches away from the present invention because no computer software applications are taught by *Okabe* as recited by claims 1, 11 and 19 of the present invention.

The Examiner attempts to combine the teachings of *Starkey* with *Okabe*. However, *Starkey* does not cure the deficiencies of *Okabe* because it fails to teach performing a storage operation as recited by claims 1, 11 and 19 of the present invention. *Starkey* merely discloses altering prestored information rather than performing a storage operation as claimed by the present invention. For instance, in column 4, lines 38-42 of *Starkey*, the disclosure states that in the "environment of a database management system, a first application or process can cause a database manager to modify fields in the database while a second application or process depends upon receiving a notification of any modification." Thus, a storage operation is not taught by *Starkey*, rather modification of previously entered data is merely disclosed.

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In accordance with the M.P.E.P. §2142, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the reference themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teaching. Because *Okabe* only teaches hardware configurations **without** a teaching of computer software applications, it is not clear of how one of ordinary skill in the art would be motivated or how there would be some suggestion to look to the teachings of *Starkey* which deals with communication means outside the teachings of *Okabe* -- namely computer software applications. The Examiner has not provided any additional response/support in the final Office Action to show some suggestion or motivation for one of ordinary skill in the art to look to modify *Okabe* with the teachings of *Starkey*. Hence, the Examiner is respectfully requested to either provide such suggestion or motivation, as required by the M.P.E.P., or withdraw the rejection.

Additionally, in accordance with the M.P.E.P. §2143.03, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness of a claimed invention, **all the claim limitations** must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re: Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974)*. "All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art." *In re: Wilson, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494 196 (CCPA 1970)*. Since the prior art fails to teach or suggest all the claimed features (including, for instance, performing the storage operation in combination with the computer software application as recited in claims 1, 11 and 19) *Okabe*, alone or in combination with *Starkey*, cannot be said to teach or suggest the present invention as claimed. Hence, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4-5, 7 and 10 ultimately depend from independent claim 1 and are patentable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons as is claim 1.

Claims 13, 15 and 18 ultimately depend from independent claim 11 and are patentable over the cited prior art for at least the same reasons as is claim 11.

Claims 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 12, 14, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Okabe* in view of *Starkey* as applied to claim 1 and further in view of *Kitano, et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,446,841). Claims 2-3, 6, and 8-9 depend from independent claim 1. Claims 12, 14, and 16-17 depend from independent claim 11.

Okabe in view of *Starkey* fails to teach the claimed invention as recited in claims 1 and 11 as presented above.

Kitano, et al. discloses an information processing system comprising fluid processors in combination with a shared memory connected to the plurality of processors for enabling communication between the processor and a unit disposed in the shared memory for storing information for specifying a processor connected thereto. However, *Kitano, et al.* fails to cure the deficiencies of *Okabe* in view of *Starkey, inter alia*, because it fails to teach at least the first computer software application and a second computer application as recited in claims 1 and 11 of the present invention. Therefore, since the prior art lacks all the claimed features, *Okabe*, alone or in combination with *Starkey* and *Kitano, et al.* cannot be said to teach or suggest the present invention as claimed. Hence, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.
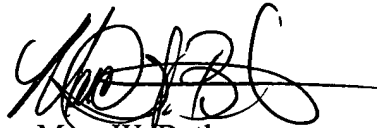
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition

for allowance. If it is believed that the application is not in condition for allowance the Examiner

is requested to contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such contact will expedite

the prosecution of the application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicants petition for an appropriate extension

of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No.

50-2036.

Respectfully submitted,

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